

Greenways and Trails TIDBITS

December 2007 Edition

Tennessee State Parks,
<http://www.tnstateparks.com>

Tennessee State Parks received the Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management, the highest honor a park system can receive in the United States. Go to: <http://www.tnstateparks.com/goldmedal/> to read about the key accomplishments that made this award possible.

TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) - June, 2007
Recreation Educational Services Division (RES),
<http://www.tdec.net/recreation/grants.shtml>

RES is pleased to announce the new 2008 Grant Application process is open.

You can download the forms from the website above. Applications are available for Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF) funds, the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funds. These are matching grant programs and the LPRF and LWCF fund is a 50/50% match and the RTP is a 80%/20% match. Application Deadline is 4 p.m. CST March 7, 2008.

RES has published "*Pathways for Trail Building*" in cooperation with the Commissioner's Council on Greenways and Trails. This 5.5" x 8.5" 2 color hard copy booklet covers trail design, layout and construction for non-motorized trails. For copies of this booklet, contact Bob Richards at 615-532-0753 or Robert.richards@state.tn.us. Go to <http://www.tdec.net/recreation/> to be able to download a 8.5" x 11", 4-color copy of this booklet.

Tennessee State Parks, Bike Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT)
<http://www.tnstateparks.com/BRAT/>

Go to the website <http://www.brat.smugmug.com/> to check out the pictures from the 2007 BRAT. This year 320 riders participated in the ride through Middle Tennessee starting at the Bicentennial Mall in Nashville and ending at Long Hunter State Park..

The 2008 BRAT will be located in the hills of upper East Tennessee. Check the website in January, 2008 for ride information and registration forms.

Tennessee Youth Conservation Corp <http://www.tdec.net/tycc/>

Tennessee State Parks' first Youth Conservation Corp was a great success! 12 different crews worked hard in the numerous state parks and natural areas selected for the first year of this pilot program. 102 young people learned new skills and visited new places during the course of their summer activities.

Go to the website for more information about the program and how to participate in 2008.

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American Hiking Society <http://www.americanhiking.org/>
National Trails Day!

Be sure to put June 7, 2008 on your calendar and start planning for the **2008 NTD!**

Go to the NTD website: <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/> to see the 2007 list of activities that were held throughout the State of Tennessee.

Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation <http://www.tenngreen.org/>

On December 5, 2007 the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation announced the 2007 State Park Connections Awards. There were 11 awards totaling \$21,071.40 for numerous projects in Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas.

Go to: <http://www.tenngreen.org/stateparkconnections.htm> to find out more about the program.

Southern Off Road Bicycling Association (SORBA) <http://www.sorba.org/>

SORBA is the IMBA affiliate for the Southeast and there are numerous clubs that made up the Association. For the Tennessee clubs, go to <http://www.sorbachattanooga.org>.

Go to: <http://www.sorbachattanooga.org/trails/trails.php?state=8&trail=367> to check out the Chattanooga Chapter's trail directory, an interactive trail guide for mountain bike trails throughout the State of Tennessee.

American Trails <http://www.americantrails.org/nttp/FHWAnttp.html>

Need to find out more about the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program?

Need training for trail design, layout, construction or on trail assessments!

Check out the National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP) website at <http://americantrails.org/nttp/default>. The NTTP provides a comprehensive calendar showing available training opportunities.

If you don't see what you need, contact the NTTP and see if one can be set up.

American Trails <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/>

Do you need information about accessible trails and to find out whether your trail meets the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications? This is the website that has the answers to your questions. Go to: <http://www.access-board.gov/po1.cfm> to print out copies of the technical guidelines for ADA compliance for different facilities.

You can also find information about accessible trails at the American Trails website. Go to: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/NPRMnews6-07.html>.

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UPCOMING DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

2008 Calendar of Greenways and Trails Events

Applications available for the Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award beginning January 1, 2008. Go to www.tdec.net/award to download the application. Deadline for applications is March 31, 2008.

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| Tennessee Recreation and Parks Assoc. (TRPA) Park Professional Schools Park. | January 23-24,2008 | Fall Creek Falls State |
| National Off Highway Vehicle Conservation Council Annual Conference | March 23-30, 2008 | Albuquerque, NM |
| National Trails Day | June 7, 2008 | Statewide events |
| IMBA World Summit 2008 | June 18-21, 2008 | Park City, UT |
| Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT) | September 14-20, 2008 | Upper East Tennessee |
| Governor's Land & Water Forum IV | October, 2008 | At a State Park |
| National Recreation & Parks Assoc. Annual Conference | October 14-18, 2008 | Baltimore, MD |
| National Trails Symposium | November 15-18, 2008 | Little Rock, AR |
| TRPA Annual Conference | November 17-21, 2008 | Memphis, TN |

Please send your event information to Bob Richards as soon as you are aware of the date for inclusion in the Greenways and Trails TIDBITS newsletter. This newsletter is produced bimonthly, or when there is enough information to distribute.

Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and it is strongly recommended that you go to those sources directly for complete information about an activity or event.

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